Network Systems
Science & Advanced
Computing

Biocomplexity Institute & Initiative

University of Virginia

Estimation of COVID-19 Impact in Virginia

September 15th, 2021

(data current to September 11th -14th)
Biocomplexity Institute Technical report: TR 2021-101



BIOCOMPLEXITY INSTITUTE

biocomplexity.virginia.edu

About Us

- Biocomplexity Institute at the University of Virginia
 - Using big data and simulations to understand massively interactive systems and solve societal problems
- Over 20 years of crafting and analyzing infectious disease models
 - Pandemic response for Influenza, Ebola, Zika, and others



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Overview

• Goal: Understand impact of COVID-19 mitigations in Virginia

Approach:

- Calibrate explanatory mechanistic model to observed cases
- Project based on scenarios for next 4 months
- Consider a range of possible mitigation effects in "what-if" scenarios

Outcomes:

- Ill, Confirmed, Hospitalized, ICU, Ventilated, Death
- Geographic spread over time, case counts, healthcare burdens

Key Takeaways

Projecting future cases precisely is impossible and unnecessary. Even without perfect projections, we can confidently draw conclusions:

- Case rate growth in Virginia has slowed as many districts have started a decline from a peak, similarly across US many states have started declining from a peak; Case rates remain very high.
- VA mean 7-day incidence is up at 43/100K from 38/100K, US also up at 50/100K (from 48/100K)
- Projections show reduced rate of increase and thus the impact has decreased compared to last week
- Recent updates:
 - Adjustment to higher levels of assumed immunity waning (natural and vaccine)
 - Added a SeptSurge based on transmission rates from last year Labor Day to Thanksgiving with variant boosting
 - Added Fall surge scenario to capture potential rebounds and further test immunity from expanded vaccination

The situation continues to change. Models continue to be updated regularly.

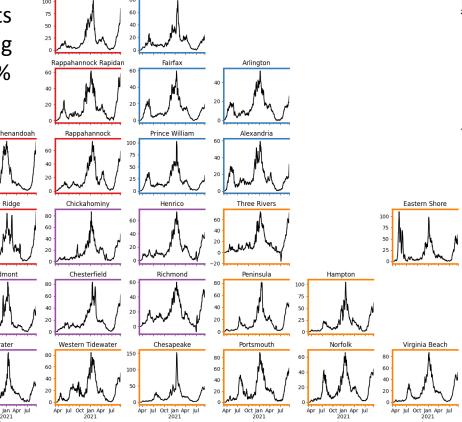
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Situation Assessment

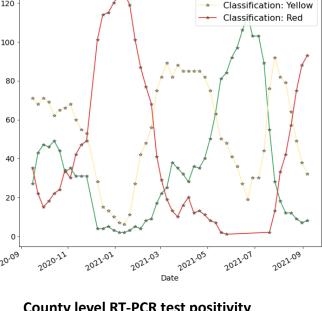


Case Rates (per 100k) and Test Positivity 20

- Case rate increase across all health districts
- Some past 50% of winter peak and growing
- More than 50% of counties with TPR > 10%







County level RT-PCR test positivity

Green: <5.0% (or <20 tests in past 14 days) Yellow: 5.0%-10.0% (or <500 tests and <2000 tests/100k and >10% positivity over 14 days) Red: >10.0% (and not "Green" or "Yellow")

Classification	Green	Yellow	Red
date			
2021-06-28	103.0	30.0	0.0
2021-07-06	103.0	30.0	0.0
2021-07-13	89.0	44.0	0.0
2021-07-20	55.0	76.0	2.0
2021-07-27	28.0	92.0	13.0
2021-08-03	18.0	82.0	33.0
2021-08-10	12.0	79.0	42.0
2021-08-17	12.0	64.0	57.0
2021-08-24	9.0	49.0	75.0
2021-08-31	7.0	38.0	88.0

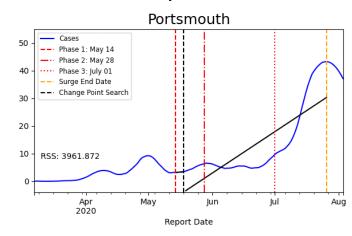
Cumberland

District Trajectories

Goal: Define epochs of a Health District's COVID-19 incidence to characterize the current trajectory

Method: Find recent peak and use hockey stick fit to find inflection point afterwards, then use this period's slope to define the trajectory

Hockey stick fit



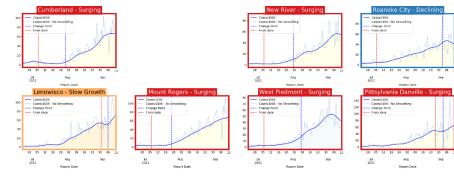
Trajectory	Description	Weekly Case Rate (per 100K) bounds	# Districts (prev week)
Declining	Sustained decreases following a recent peak	below -0.9	12 (3)
Plateau	Steady level with minimal trend up or down	above -0.9 and below 0.5	4 (2)
Slow Growth	Sustained growth not rapid enough to be considered a Surge	above 0.5 and below 2.5	7 (4)
In Surge	Currently experiencing sustained rapid and significant growth	2.5 or greater	12 (26)

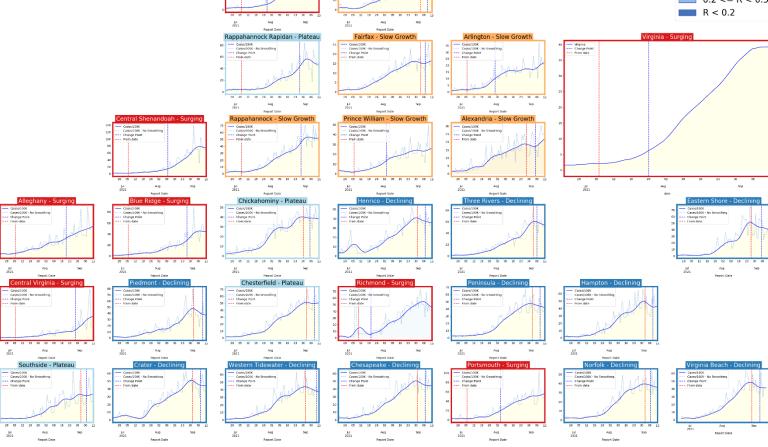


District Trajectories – last 10 weeks

Status	# Districts (prev week)
Declining	12 (3)
Plateau	4 (2)
Slow Growth	7 (4)
In Surge	12 (26)

Curve shows smoothed case rate (per 100K) Trajectories of states in label & chart box Case Rate curve colored by Reproductive number





MIVERSITY VIRGINIA

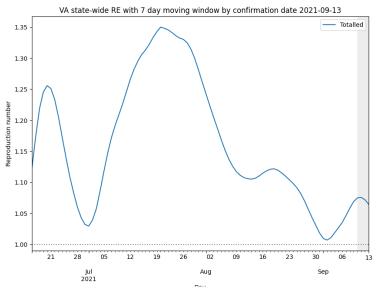
Estimating Daily Reproductive Number

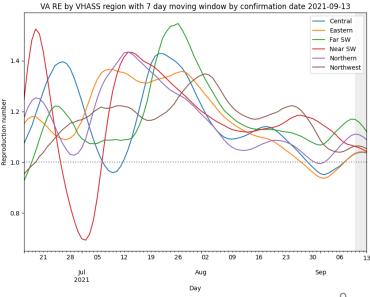
Sept 13th Estimates

Region	Date Confirmed R _e	Date Confirmed Diff Last Week
State-wide	1.065	0.062
Central	1.037	0.129
Eastern	1.039	0.134
Far SW	1.121	0.184
Near SW	1.042	0.023
Northern	1.089	0.174
Northwest	1.053	0.071

Methodology

- Wallinga-Teunis method (EpiEstim¹) for cases by confirmation date
- Serial interval: updated to discrete distribution from observations (mean=4.3, Flaxman et al, Nature 2020)
- Using Confirmation date since due to increasingly unstable estimates from onset date due to backfill



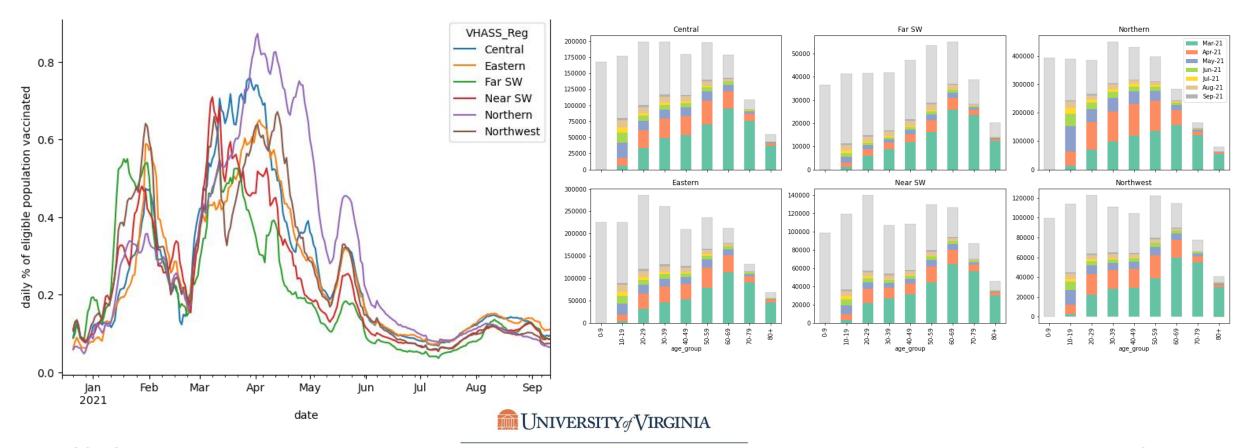


^{1.} Anne Cori, Neil M. Ferguson, Christophe Fraser, Simon Cauchemez. A New Framework and Software to Estimate Time-Varying Reproduction Numbers During Epidemics. American Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 178, Issue 9, 1 November 2013, Pages 1505–1512, https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwt133

Vaccination Administration Slows

Regional Vaccine courses initiated per day:

- Total counts of first dose of vaccines across regions
- Age-specific proportions of population vaccinated

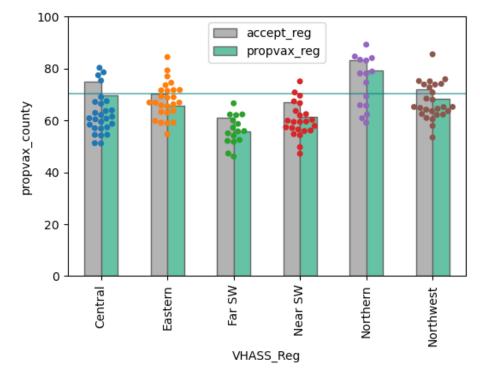


Vaccination Acceptance by Region

Corrections to surveys:

- Facebook administered survey is timely and broad, but biased by who accesses Facebook and answers the survey
- Correction approach:
 - Calculate an over-reporting fraction based on reported vaccinations compared to VDH administration data
 - Cross-validate coarse corrections against HPS survey at the state level and corrected in same manner

Region	COVIDcast accepting corrected	VDH proportion pop vaccinated
Central	73%	70%
Eastern	71%	66%
Far SW	64%	56%
Near SW	69%	61%
Northern	84%	79%
Northwest	72%	68%
Virginia	75 %	70 %



Grey Bar: Survey measured and corrected acceptance

Green Bar: Proportion of eligible population

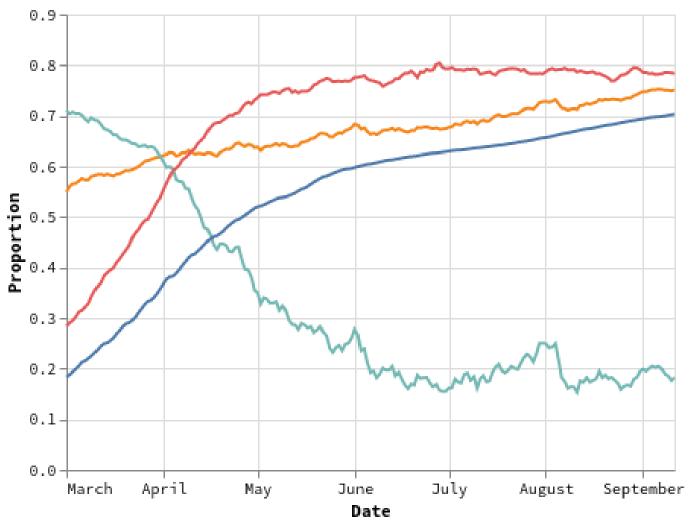
administered a vaccine

Dots: Proportion administered at least one dose for

each county



Vaccine Acceptance Components over Time



Vaccine Willingness

- Administered Vaccines
- Corrected Acceptance
- Surveyed Vaccinated
- Unvaccinated Acceptance

Vaccine Acceptance adjusted to include scheduled appointments

- Steady rise in acceptance over the past couple months
- Unvaccinated Acceptance shows ~20% of those who are unvaccinated are definitely or probably willing to be vaccinated
- Scheduled appointments for vaccination has increased through August but seems to be leveling off.

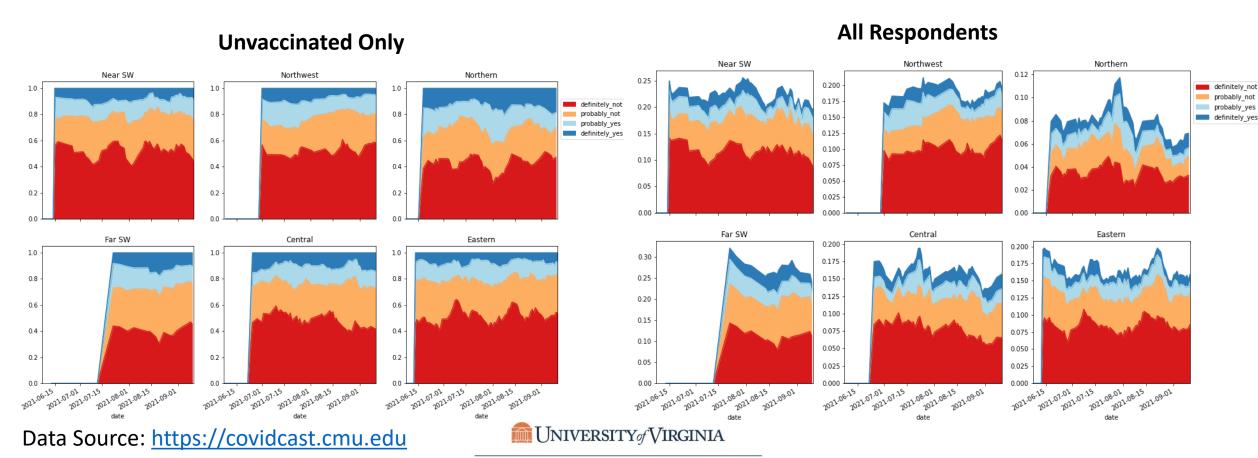
Data Source: https://covidcast.cmu.edu

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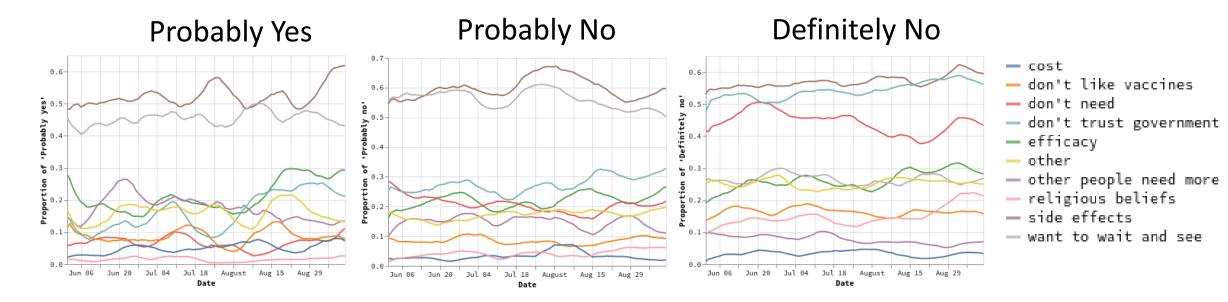
Vaccine Acceptance by Region- COVIDcast

Levels of Acceptance and potential acceptance in flux:

- Most regions (except Central and Far SW) see vaccine uptake in the "Definitely Yes".
- Among the unvaccinated, about 20-30% remain in the Definitely/Probably "Yes" categories.
- About 50% of the Unvaccinated seem to be in the "Definitely Not" category.



Reasons for Hesitancy by Likeliness to Accept



Reasons for Hesitancy vary across tiers of likeliness to accept the vaccine

- Probably Yes and Probably No most concerned about side effects & are waiting to see
- Definitely No are concerned about side effects but also don't think they need the vaccine and don't trust the government, though don't need is declining
- Most other reasons are below 30% within these tiers of likeliness



Mask Usage Increases

Self-reported mask usage has declined for months, but rebounded

- State-wide continues to rise, now outpaces US (65% vs. 64%)
- Progress in some counties has stalled or declined

PEOPLE WEARING MASKS MAP



Data Source: https://covidcast.cmu.edu

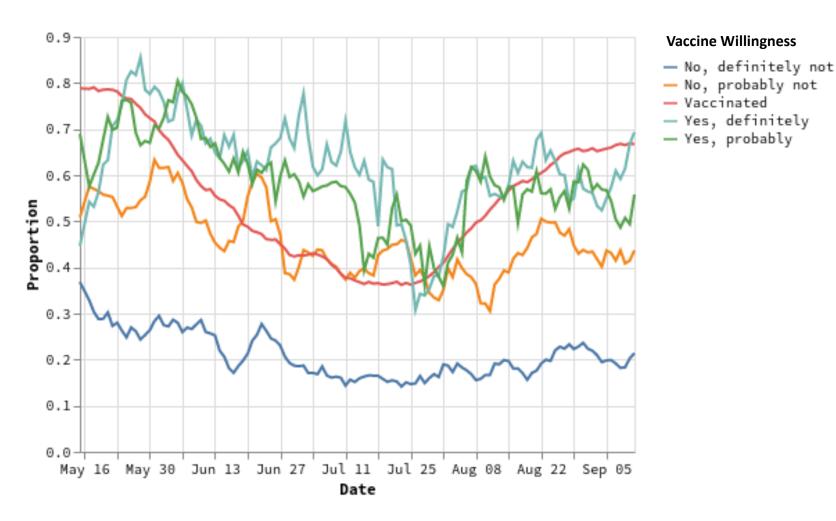


	VIRGINIA COUNTIES			$\overline{\bot}$
	COUNTY	CHANGE LAST 7 DAYS	PER 100	HISTORICAL TREND 8/16 9/13
	^	^	^	
	United States	→ +1.58%	63.62% /100	9/8
	Virginia	→ +1.95%	65.07% /100	9/8
	Newport News, VA	↓ −18.65%	61.49% /100	9/8
	Virginia Beach, VA	→ -0.32%	61.57% /100	9/8
	Norfolk, VA	↑ +7.82%	65.89% /100	9/8
	Chesapeake, VA	↑+9.63%	67.46% /100	9/8
il	Albemarle County, VA	↑+9.42%	70.03% /100	9/8
	Chesterfield County, VA	↑+9.27%	70.03% /100	9/8
	Henrico County, VA	→ +2.68%	72.22% /100	9/8
L	Richmond, VA	→ +1.69%	73.31% /100	9/8
	Prince William County, VA	↑+5.16 %	75.51% /100	9/8
	Loudoun County, VA	→+5.07%	76.46% /100	9/8
	Hampton, VA	↑ +12.24%	77.00% /100	9/8
	Fairfax, VA	→ +2.52%	77.89% /100	9/8
	Arlington County, VA	↑ +46.84%	79.97% /100	9/8

Mask Wearing by Vaccine Willingness

Among the different tiers of vaccine acceptance, mask wearing increasing

- Only those who would "definitely not" take the vaccine if offered have a low level of mask usage
- Probably Yes, joins vaccinated with highest mask wearing at ~67%



Data Source: https://covidcast.cmu.edu



Vaccine Willingness

SARS-CoV2 Variants of Concern

GISAID outbreak.info

Emerging new variants will alter the future trajectories of pandemic and have implications for future control

- Emerging variants can:
 - Increase transmissibility
 - Increase severity (more hospitalizations and/or deaths)
 - Limit immunity provided by prior infection and vaccinations
- Genomic surveillance remains very limited
 - Challenges ability to estimate impact in US to date and estimation of arrival and potential impact in future

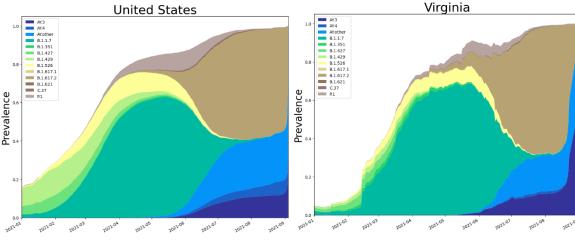
	New WHO Name	Transmissibility	Immune Evasiveness	Vaccine Effectiveness^
Ancestral			_	✓
D614G		+		✓
B.1.1.7	Alpha	+++	·	✓
B.1.351	Beta	+	++++	✓
P.1	Gamma	++	++	✓
B.1.429	Epsilon	+	+	✓
B.1.526	lota	+	+	✓
B.1.617.2	Delta	++++*	++#	✓

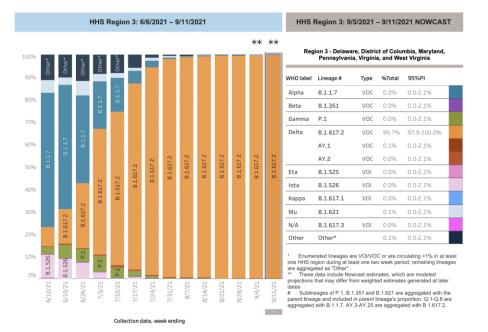
^{*}Relative transmissibility to B.1.1.7 yet to be fully defined

[^]Effectiveness from real world evidence vs. severe illness, not all vaccines are effective vs all variants, and importance of 2-doses, especially for B.1.617.2 for which 1 dose of mRNA or AZ is only \sim 30% effective # May carry more immune escape than P.1, to be determined



WHO and Eric Topol

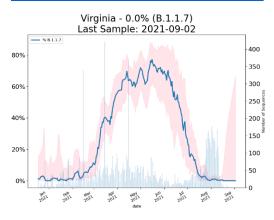




SARS-CoV2 Variants of Concern

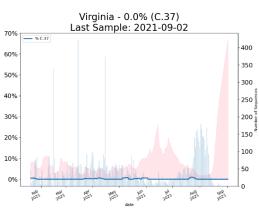
Previous Variants

Alpha α - Lineage B.1.1.7

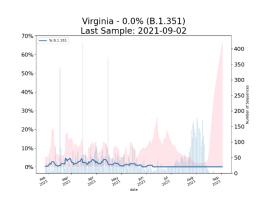


Emerging Variants

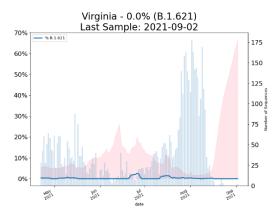
<u>Lambda λ - Lineage C.37</u>



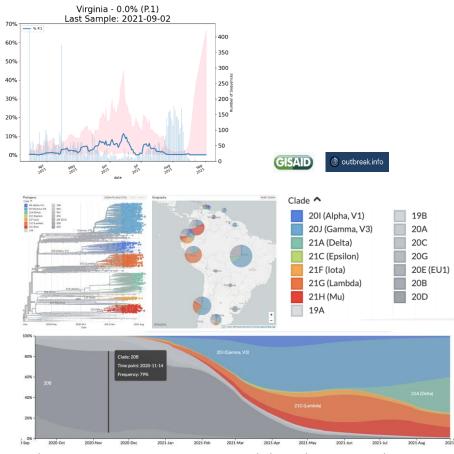
Beta β - **Lineage B.1.351**



Mu μ - **Lineage B.1.621**



Gamma γ - Lineage P.1

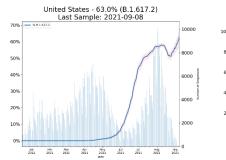


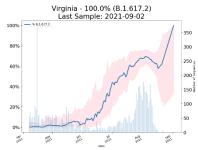
Delta continues to out compete Lambda and Mu in South America <u>Trevor Bedford Tweet & Nextstrain Analysis</u>

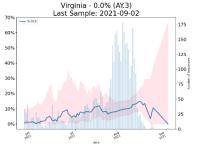
SARS-CoV2 Variants of Concern

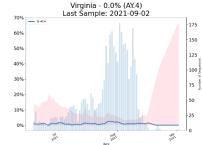
Delta δ - Lineage B.1.617.2 and related subvariants

- Delta plus δ + lineage which contains the K417N mutation is emerging as a sub-variant that is even more transmissible; declared a VoC in India
- Delta variant now dominates most of Europe and US
- CDC recommends resumption of mask wearing indoors due to reports of breakthrough infections of the vaccinated possibly being transmissible
- <u>Recent study from Mayo clinic</u> shows Delta reducing the efficacy of mRNA vaccines (Pfizer more so than Moderna) along with <u>other reports</u>. <u>Israeli study</u> showed 64% efficacy against infection, however, a 3rd dose may <u>counteract</u> <u>this reduction</u>
- <u>Public Health Scotland study in Lancet</u> suggests Delta is 2x more likely to cause hospitalization than Alpha
- Subvariants AY.3 (15%) and AY.4 (1.5%) of Delta are more prevalent, these subvariants are mainly clustered in the US, others mainly outside of US









nia - 100.0% (['B.1.617.2', 'AY.1', 'AY.10', 'AY.11', 'AY.12', 'AY.2', 'AY.3', 'AY.3.1', 'AY.4', 'AY.5', 'AY.6', 'AY.7', 'A' Last Sample: 2021-09-02



Main delta and all other subvariants

Variants & Vaccines

- 1. Public Health England report verifies strong protection against hospitalization and highlights that longer intervals between vaccine doses can be more efficacious, but too long may also diminish efficacy
- 2. Additional analyses on the PHE study above demonstrate the utility of additional doses for the most vulnerable populations, and benefits of dose gaps larger than 4 weeks.
- 3. Updated analysis on Israeli data that avoids Simpson's paradox continues to demonstrate vaccines high effectiveness against severe disease, and illustrates that lumping the under 12 population (ineligible for vaccination) into analyses can further diminish measured effectiveness
- 4. Study in Science illustrates the equivalency of low-dose Moderna mRNA vaccine with natural immunity, including longer term T-cell responses, suggesting potential for dose sharing (25μg vs. 100 μg)
- 5. San Francisco schools limited outbreaks and found very limited number of cases in their schools through basic low-cost infection control measures: vaccines, ventilation. HEPA filter. monitor CO2. indoor masks.

and eating outside

Moderna cellular generat memor quantity months post-boost compared to COVID-19 cases.

na vaccine stimulated immunity vaccine-	Age	P	opulation (%)	1		Serious (per 100k		(% reducti	RIOUS On relative cinated)
ted spike-specific		Not Vax	Vax (NB)	Boost	Not Vax	Vax (NB)	Boost	Vax (NB)	Boost
ry CD4+ T cells 6 months oost were comparable in	All ages	1,226,932 (17.8%)	4,446,814 (64.7%)	1,200,310 (17.5%)	9289 (757.1)	7688 (172.9)	1378 (114.8)	77.2%	84.8%
ty and quality to COVID-19	<12	2,229,128	0	0	0	0	0	*	
Spike-specific CD8+ T cells enerated in 88% of subjects,	12-60	1,071,666 (20.1%)	3,870,427 (72.6%)	385,137 (7.2%)	3716 (346.75)	1437 (37.1)	100 (26.0)	89.3%	92.5%
uivalent memory at 6	>60	157,273 (10.2%)	576,344 (37.2%)	815,106 (52.6%)	5573 (3543.5)	6251 (1084.6)	1278 (156.8)	69.4%	95.6%

These data include all children <12yr in these data, even thought they are not eligible for vaccination. Given children are at a much lower risk of severe COVID-19, this strongly attenuates VE estimates for the <60 age group and overall, with Age-12yr as an exceptionally strong Simpson's Effect factor Comparing ministry tables with and without <12yr, we can estimate this group as 2,229,128.

Israel Severe Cases Aug 10-Sept8 (Age<12 pulled out)

Assuming zero serious COVID-19 & zero vaccinations from Aug10-Sept8, the numbers change substantially

Israel Severe Cases Aug10-Sept8

Age	Population (%)			Serious (per 100k		(% reducti	rious on relative ccinated)	
	Not Vax	Vax (NB)	Boost	Not Vax	Vax (NB)	Boost	Vax (NB)	Boost
All ages	3,456,060 (38.0%)	4,446,814 (48.8%)	1,200,310 (13.2%)	9289 (268.6)	7688 (172.9)	1378 (114.8)	35.6%	57.3%
<60	3,300,794 (43.7%)	3,870,427 (51.2%)	385,137 (5.1%)	3716 (112.6)	1437 (37.1)	100 (26.0)	67.0%	76.9%
>60	157,273 (10.2%)	576,344 (37.2%)	815,106 (52.6%)	5573 (3543.5)	6251 (1084.6)	1278 (156.8)	69.4%	95.6%

- However, they have raw counts and normalized counts per 100k for each outcome (vaccines, serious cases, deaths) from which it is possible to estimate the exact counts arithmetically. We used vaccination number
- These numbers change daily so here, we average over the inferred number vaccinated/not

https://www.covid-datascience.com/post/what-do-new-israeli-datasay-about-effect-of-vaccines-boosters-vs-death-critical-severe-disease

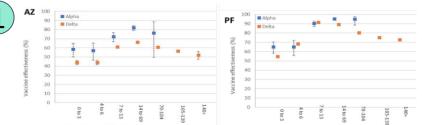
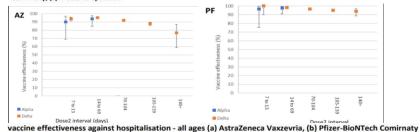
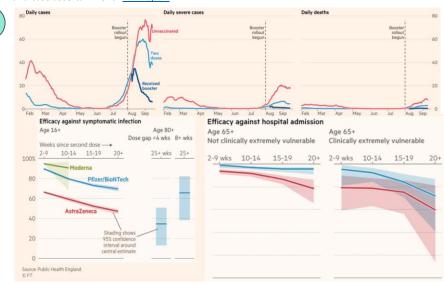


Figure 1: vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic disease - all ages (a) AstraZeneca Vaxzeyria. (b) Pfizer-BioNTec Comirnaty, (c) Moderna Spikevax

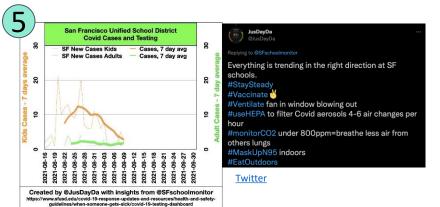


In a recent report PHE conducted a test negative case control design study to estimate VE against symptomatic disease, hospitalisation and death. They compared vaccination status in persons with symptomatic Covid-19 with vaccination status in persons who reported symptoms but had a negative test. This approach helps to control for biases related to health-seeking behaviour, access to testing

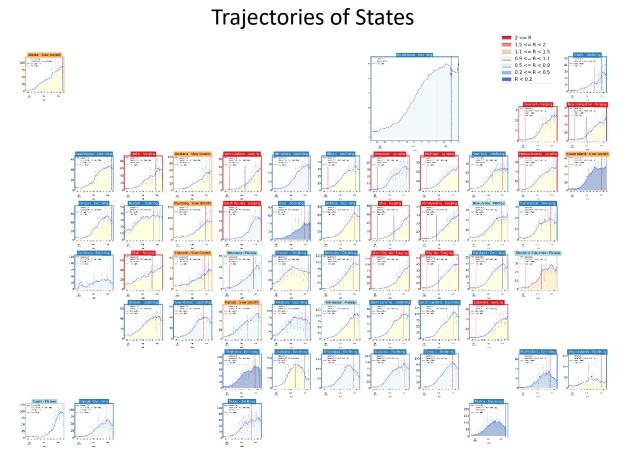
and case ascertainment. PHE report



A recent Financial Times article based on data from PHE raises important aspects in the case for boosters, namely 1) the dosage gap impact on immune resilience and 2) the likelihood of being infected based on waning immunity, age, and other aspects of vulnerability. https://www.ft.com/content/cf83b3a1-fe06-4c9f-999c-7500090aee7c

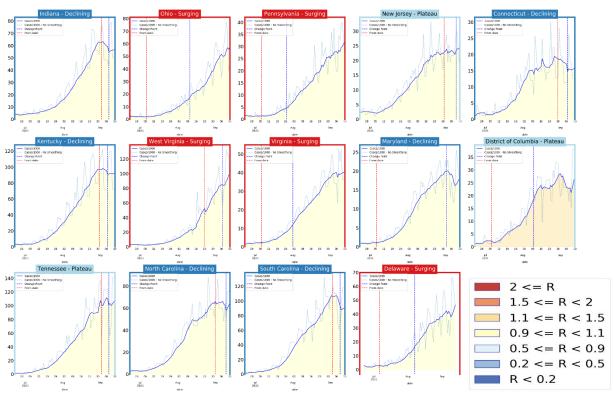


Other State Comparisons



- More of the country has plateaued and started to decline
- Many states remain in surge, but show signs of slowing
- Case rates remain very high, but nationally rates are starting to Case rates come down UNIVERSITY VIRGINIA

Virginia and her neighbors

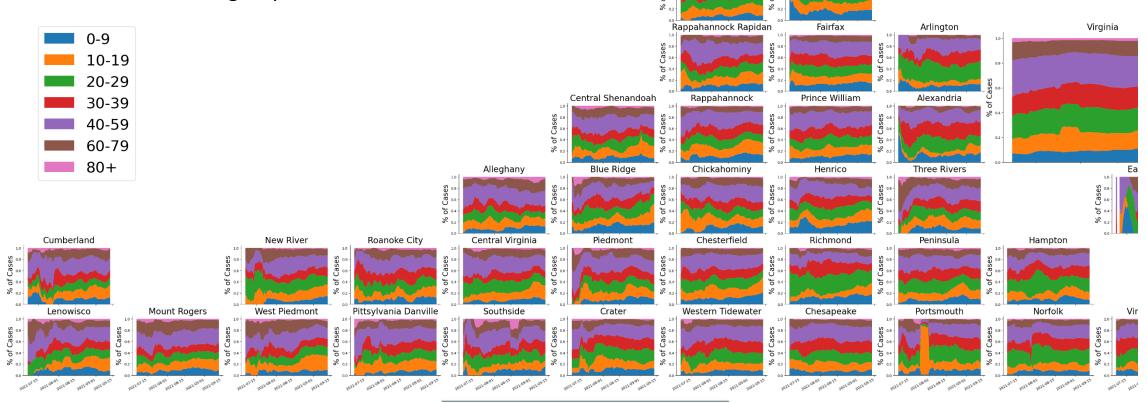


- Nearly all states show signs of plateau or slowing growth, with several declining in the past week
- Case rates remain high

Age-Specific Case Rates

Case Rates (per 100K) by Age Groups

- Rapid growth in many regions in the 0-19 age range, many exceeding 20% of current case rates (nearly 10% for 0-9)
- Case Rate in under 40 group far exceeds 40+ in all districts



1500

1250

1000

750

500

202003

2021Q2

Hospitalizations - VA

20-49

50-69

AugSepOct NovDecJan FebMarApr MayJun Jul Aug 2021

20-49

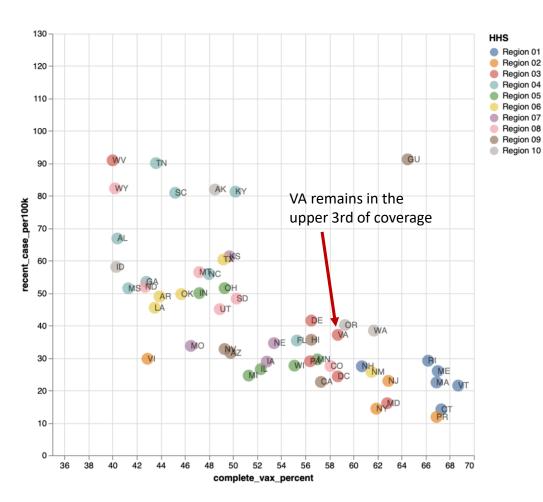
50-69

AugSepOct NovDecJan FebMarApr MayJun Jul Aug 2021

Recent Cases Correlate with Vax Coverage

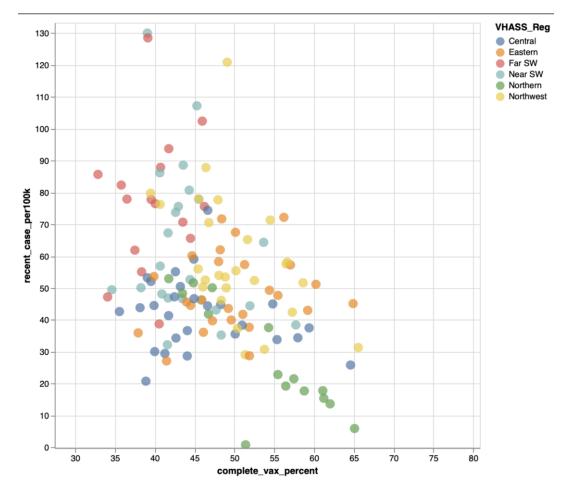
Mean cases per 100K vs. vaccine coverage

• States with lower vax coverage have had the worst case spikes



Virginia Counties

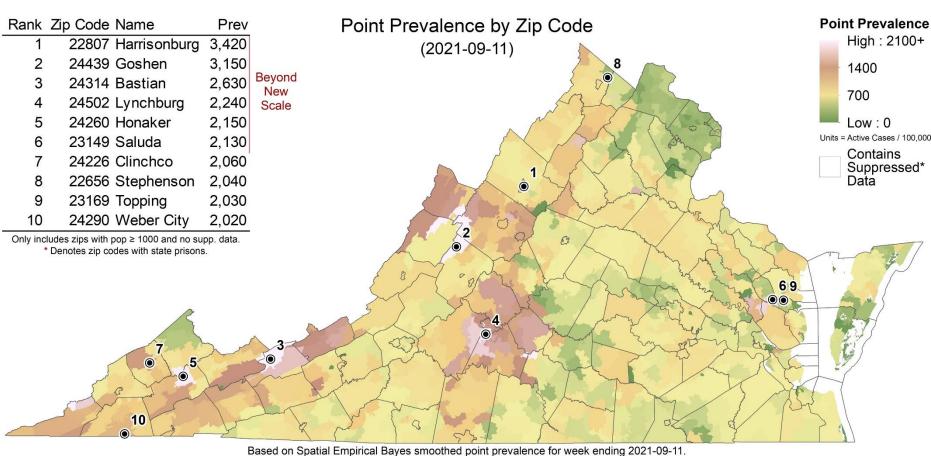
• Counties with higher vax coverage are maintaining lower case rates



Zip code level weekly Case Rate (per 100K)

Case Rates in the last week by zip code

- Color scaled adjusted to accommodate the very high prevalence levels this week
- Clusters of high prevalence in Southwest and Eastern
- Some counts are low and suppressed to protect anonymity, those are shown in white



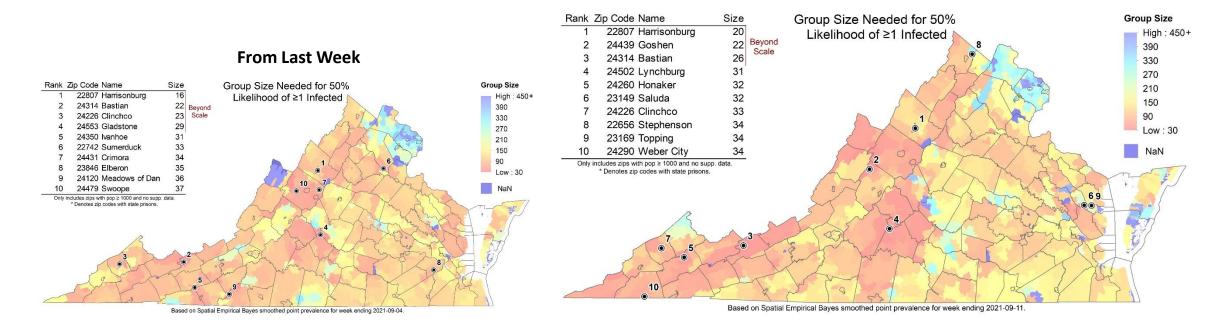
Based on Spatial Empirical Bayes smoothed point prevalence for week ending 2021-09-11.



Risk of Exposure by Group Size

Case Prevalence in the last week by zip code used to calculate risk of encountering someone infected in a gathering of randomly selected people (group size 25)

• **Group Size**: Assumes 2 undetected infections per confirmed case (ascertainment rate from recent seroprevalence survey), and shows minimum size of a group with a 50% chance an individual is infected by zip code (eg in a group of 20 in Harrisonburg, there is a 50% chance someone will be infected)





HCW Prevalence

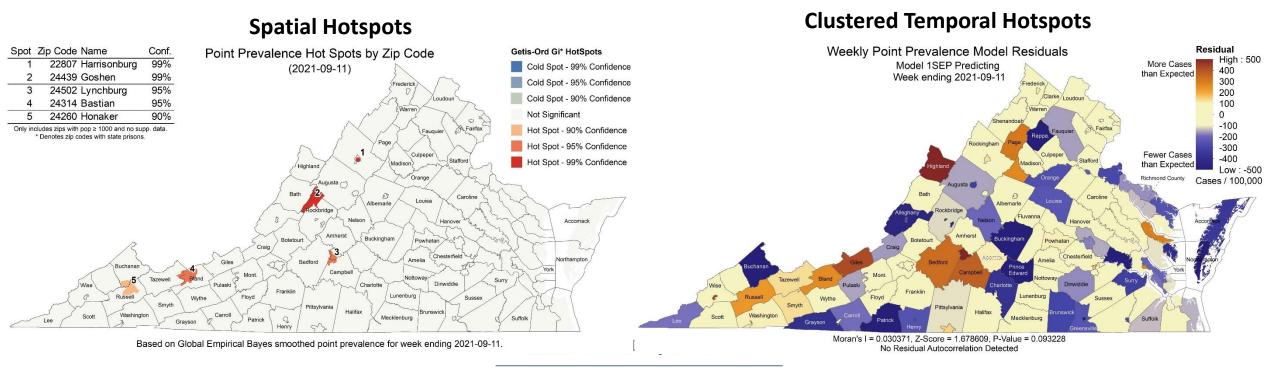
- HCW prevalence: Case rate among health care workers (HCW) in the last week using patient facing health care workers as the denominator
 - Clusters of high HCW point prevalence in far southwest (Wise & Dickinson Counties) and south of Richmond (Lunenburg and Prince Edward to Surry Counties)
- **HCW Ratio**: HCW Prevalence / Total Case Prevalence
 - (blue = higher case rate among public, red = higher case rate among HCW)

HCW Prevalence HCW to Public Prevalence Ratio Prevalence Ratio HCW Point Prevalence by Zip Code Point Prevalence HCW Prevalence / Case Prevalence 1 Charles City County 1 Bland County Higher HCW Prev (2021-09-11)(2021-09-11)Beyond 1330 2 Charles City County 2 Westmoreland County 1130 3:1 3 Mathews County 3 Cumberland County 300 2:1 5 Mathews County 5 Page County 1:1 6 Warren County 810 680 7 Lee County 1 . 3 8 Scott County 670 650 King and Queen 9 Smyth County 640

Current Hot-Spots

Case rates that are significantly different from neighboring areas or model projections

- **Spatial**: Getis-Ord Gi* based hot spots compare clusters of zip codes with weekly case prevalence higher than nearby zip codes to identify larger areas with statistically significant deviations
- **Temporal**: The weekly case rate (per 100K) projected last week compared to observed by county, which highlights temporal fluctuations that differ from the model's projections



Model Update – Adaptive Fitting



Adaptive Fitting Approach

Each county fit precisely, with recent trends used for future projection

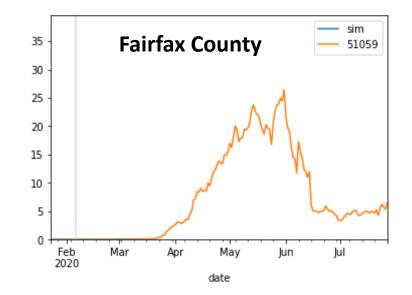
 Allows history to be precisely captured, and used to guide bounds on projections

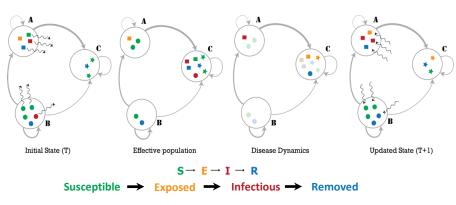
Model: An alternative use of the same meta-population model, PatchSim

- Allows for future "what-if" Scenarios to be layered on top of calibrated model
- Eliminates connectivity between patches, to allow calibration to capture the increasingly unsynchronized epidemic

External Seeding: Steady low-level importation

- Widespread pandemic eliminates sensitivity to initial conditions
- Uses steady 1 case per 10M population per day external seeding







Using Ensemble Model to Guide Projections

Ensemble methodology that combines the Adaptive with machine learning and statistical models such as:

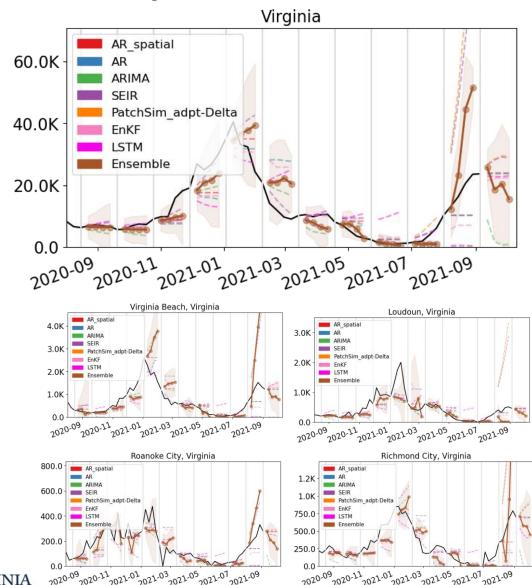
- Autoregressive (AR, ARIMA)
- Neural networks (LSTM)
- Kalman filtering (EnKF)

Weekly forecasts done at county level.

Models chosen because of their track record in disease forecasting and to increase diversity and robustness.

Ensemble forecast provides additional 'surveillance' for making scenario-based projections.

Also submitted to CDC Forecast Hub.



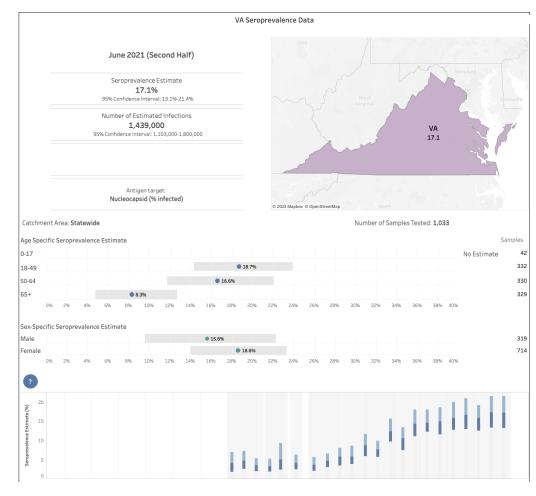
Seroprevalence updates to model design

Several seroprevalence studies provide better picture of how many actual infections have occurred

 CDC Nationwide Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Survey

These findings are equivalent to an ascertainment ratio of ~2x in the future, with bounds of (1.3x to 3x)

- Thus for 2x there are 2 total infections in the population for every confirmed case recently
- This measure now fully tracks the estimated ascertainment over time
- Uncertainty design has been shifted to these bounds (previously higher ascertainments as was consistent earlier in the pandemic were being used)



https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#national-lab



Calibration Approach

- Data:
 - · County level case counts by date of onset (from VDH)
 - Confirmed cases for model fitting
- Calibration: fit model to observed data and ensemble's forecast.
 - Tune transmissibility across ranges of:
 - Duration of incubation (5-9 days), infectiousness (3-7 days)
 - Undocumented case rate (1x to 7x) guided by seroprevalence studies
 - Detection delay: exposure to confirmation (4-12 days)
 - Approach captures uncertainty, but allows model to precisely track the full trajectory of the outbreak
- Project: future cases and outcomes generated using the collection of fit models run into the future
 - Mean trend from last 14 days of observed cases and first week of ensemble's forecast used
 - Outliers removed based on variances in the previous 3 weeks
 - 2 week interpolation to smooth transitions in rapidly changing trajectories
- Outcomes: Data driven by shift and ratio that has least error in last month of observations
 - Hospitalizations: 3 days from confirmation, 6.8% of cases hospitalized
 - Deaths: 11 days from confirmation, 1.45% of cases die





COVID-19 in Virginia:



Dashboard Updated: 9/15/2021 Data entered by 5:00 PM the prior day.

		Cases, Hospitaliza	itions and Deaths			
Total Cases* 818,804		Tot Hospitali		Total Deaths		
(New Cases: 4,066)^		35,161		12,170		
Confirmed† 616,680	Probable† 202,124	Confirmed† 33,224	Probable† 1,937	Confirmed† 10,278	Probable† 1,892	

Includes both people with a positive test (Confirmed), and symptomatic with a known exposure to COVID-19 (Probable).

[†] VDH adopted the updated CDC COVID-19 2021 Surveillance Case Definition on September 1, 2021 which is found here: --

Out	tbreaks
Total Outbreaks*	Outbreak Associated Cases
4,338	83,095

^{*} At least two (2) lab confirmed cases are required to classify an outbreak.

. It reads the (2) has commissed those are required to classify an outcide	
Testin	g (PCR Only)
Testing Encounters PCR Only*	Current 7-Day Positivity Rate PCR Only**
8,917,938	10.5%

^{*} PCR" refers to "Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction laboratory testing."

^{**} Lab reports may not have been received yet. Percent positivity is not calculated for days with incomplete data.

	Inflammatory in Children
Total Cases*	Total Deaths
83	0

^{*}Cases defined by CDC HAN case definition: https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00432.asp

Accessed 9:45am September 15, 2021 https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/

^{**} Hospitalization of a case is captured at the time VDH performs case investigation. This underrepresents the total number of hospitalizations in Virginia.

[^]New cases represent the number of confirmed and probable cases reported to VDH in the past 24 hours.

Scenarios – Transmission Conditions

- Variety of factors continue to drive transmission rates
 - Seasonal impact of weather patterns, travel and gatherings, fatigue and premature relaxation of infection control practices
- Waning Immunity: Mean of one year protection (rate of 0.0027) similar to Pfizer study
- Projection Scenarios:
 - Adaptive: Control remains as is currently experienced into the future with assumption that Delta remains as the majority strain
 - Adaptive-SeptSurge: Following Labor Day 2021, transmission rates return to the median level from Sept-Nov of 2020 with a 60% boost over ancestral strain that dominated then.
 - Adaptive-Surge Control: Starting in one week behaviors and mitigation efforts ramp up over a 2-week period culminating in a 25% reduction in transmission
 - Adaptive-Fall: Control remains as is currently experienced into the future, with an increase in transmission that is 60% stronger than the median experienced October 2020 through February 2021 starting on Nov 1st



Scenarios – Vaccination Conditions

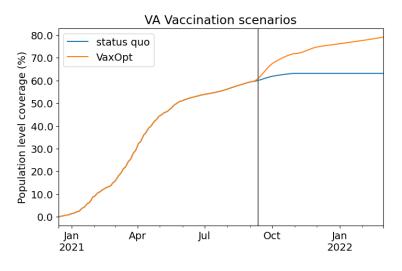
Vaccine Characteristics

- Pfizer/Moderna: 50% after first dose, 95% after second dose (3.5 week gap) J & J: 67% efficacy after first dose
- Delay to efficacy from doses is 14 days, immunity lasts at least 7m (NEJM study)

Vaccine Administration Scenarios

- **Status quo (no label):** COVIDcast corrected acceptance estimates (statewide mean is ~80% adults, 65% of population) reached by end of October.
- Optimistic (VaxOpt): Expand VA mean acceptance to include "probably not" (~85% adults) with addition of childhood (5-11 yo) rollout starting in Nov 1st. This follows the same rates as observed of adolescents and results in a net increase of ~10% of population by end of February. Additionally, all counties guaranteed to reach a minimum of 65%, max of 95% by end of October
- Acceptance at county level = regional acceptance +/- relative current vax
- Front-loaded rollout (two-thirds of the remaining in half the time)





	status quo	VaxOpt			status quo	VaxOpt	
Date				Date			
2020-12-31	109.1K	109.1K			2020-12-31	109.1K	109.1K
2021-01-31	645.5K	645.5K		2021-01-31	754.6K	754.6K	
2021-02-28	558.4K	558.4K		2021-02-28	1.3M	1.3M	
2021-03-31	1.3M	1.3M		2021-03-31	2.6M	2.6M	
2021-04-30	1.2M	1.2M		2021-04-30	3.8M	3.8M	
2021-05-31	573.9K	573.9K)	2021-05-31	4.4M	4.4M	
2021-06-30	242.3K	242.3K	Cumulative	2021-06-30	4.6M	4.6M	
2021-07-31	196.9K	196.9K		2021-07-31	4.8M	4.8M	
2021-08-31	267.9K	267.9K		2021-08-31	5.1M	5.1M	
2021-09-30	215.0K	676.5K		2021-09-30	5.3M	5.7M	
2021-10-31	116.3K	399.4K		2021-10-31	5.4M	6.1M	
2021-11-30	0.0	240.2K		2021-11-30	5.4M	6.4M	
2021-12-31	0.0	124.9K		2021-12-31	5.4M	6.5M	
2022-01-31	0.0	122.8K		2022-01-31	5.4M	6.6M	
2022-02-28	0.0	122.6K		2022-02-28	5.4M	6.7M	
2022-03-31	0.0	4.7K		2022-03-31	5.4M	6.7M	

Monthly first doses

Projection Scenarios – Combined Conditions

Name	Txm Controls	Vax	Description
Adaptive	С	SQ	Likely trajectory based on conditions remaining similar to the current experience
Adaptive-VaxOpt	С	VO	Vaccination through October reaches an optimistically high level of expanded coverage (85%)
Adaptive-Fall	Fall	SQ	Same as Adaptive, with increased transmissibility driven by seasonality and/or another variant starting Nov 1^{st}
Adaptive-Fall-VaxOpt	Fall	VO	Optimistically expand vaccination with increased transmissibility driven by seasonality and/or another variant starting Nov 1^{st}
Adaptive-SurgeControl	25%	SQ	Transmission rates in the next month reduced through increased control from non-pharmaceutical interventions, with status quo vax and Delta
Adaptive-SeptSurge	Sept	SQ	Transmission rates return to rates experienced in May 2021 with status quo vaccination and increasing prevalence of Delta

Transmission Controls: C = Current levels persist into the future

25% = Transmission rates are reduced by 25% with a gradual introduction, concluding in 4 weeks

Fall = Current levels until Nov 1st, then the median level from Oct-Feb of last year with 60% variant boost

Sept = Transmission rates return to median of Sept-Nov 2020 with 60% boost following Labor Day

Vaccinations: SQ = Status quo acceptance leads to low rates of vaccination through the summer

VO = Vaccination acceptance optimistically expands with increased rates through the summer

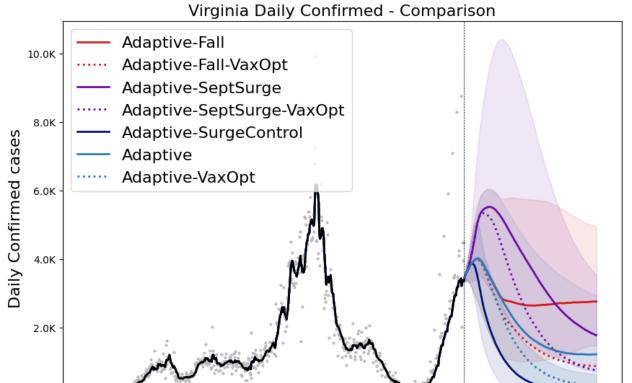
16-Sep-21 35

Model Results

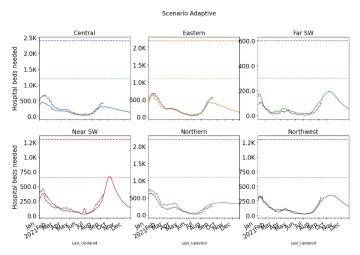


Outcome Projections

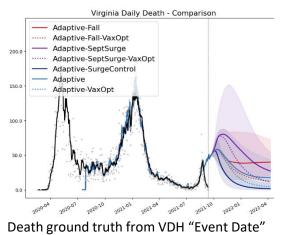
Confirmed cases



Estimated Hospital Occupancy

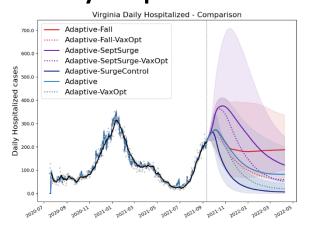


Daily Deaths



Death ground truth from VDH "Event Date" data, most recent dates are not complete

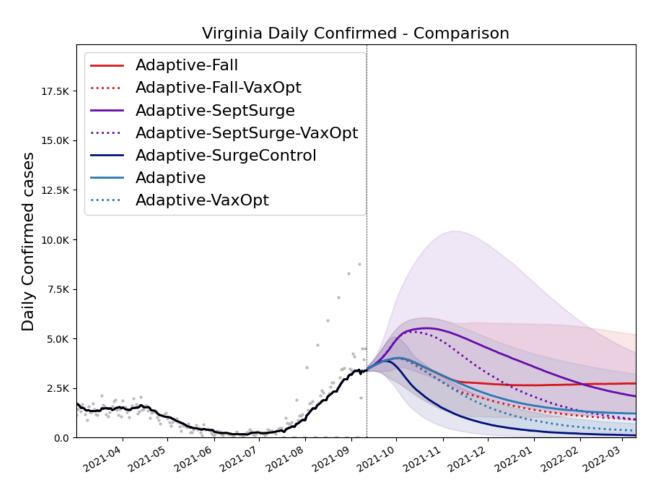
Daily Hospitalized





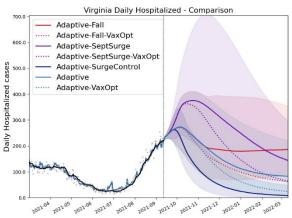
Outcome Projections – Closer Look

Confirmed cases

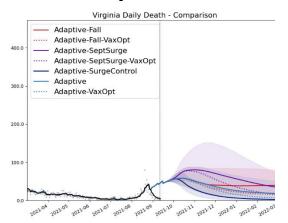


MUNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

Daily Hospitalized



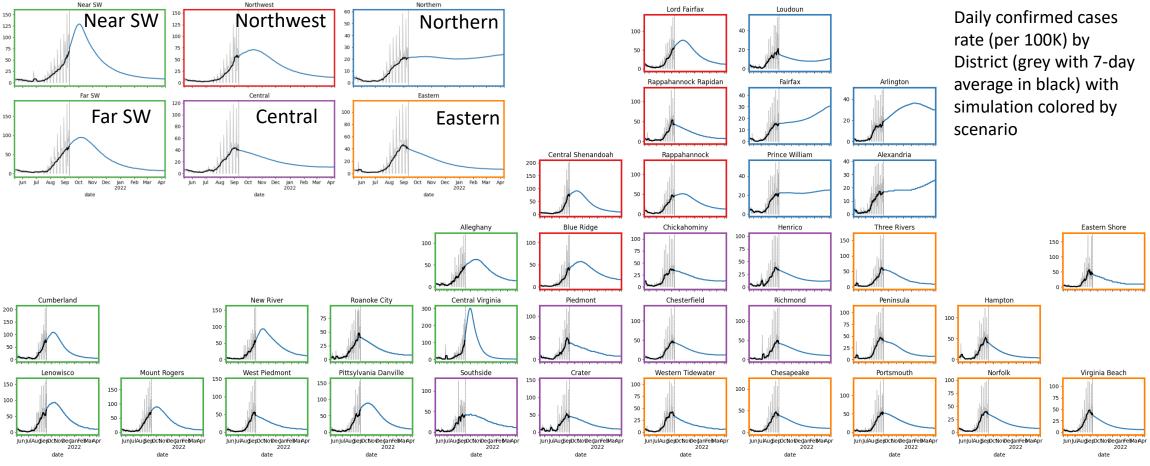
Daily Deaths



Death ground truth from VDH "Event Date" data, most recent dates are not complete

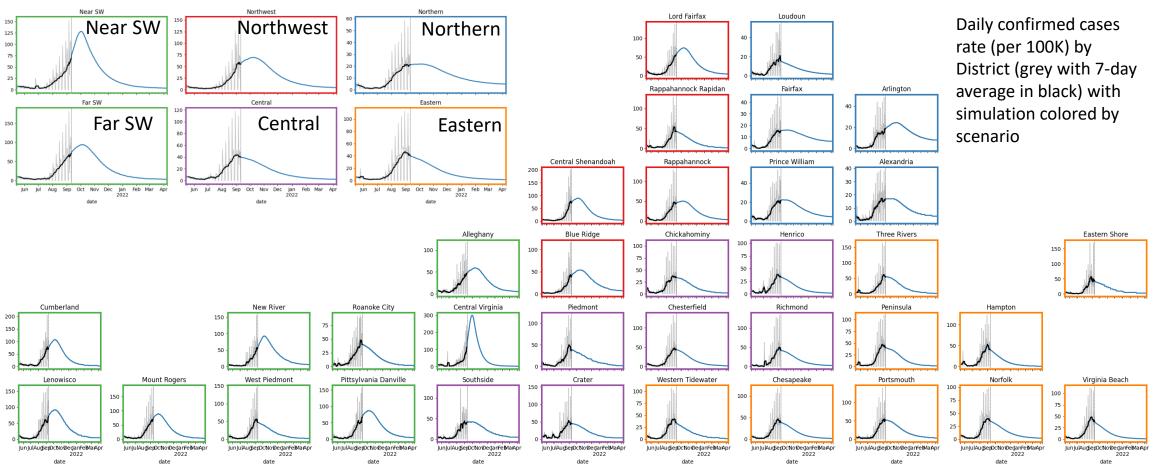
District Level Projections: Adaptive

Projections by Region



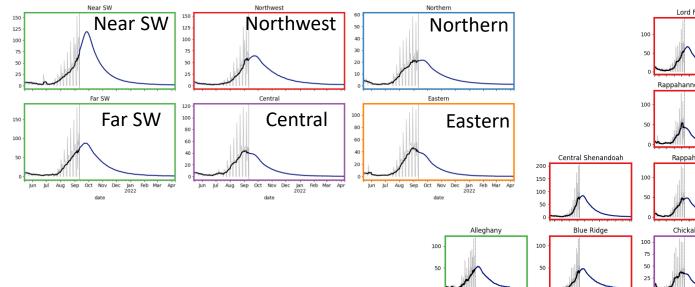
District Level Projections: Adaptive-VaxOpt

Projections by Region

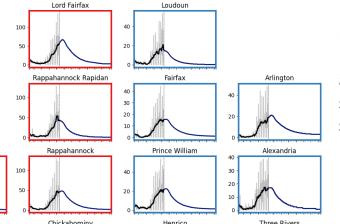


District Level Projections: SurgeControl

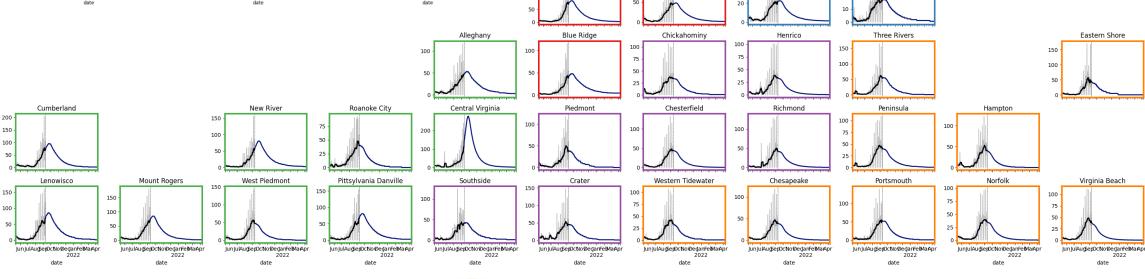
Projections by Region



Projections by District

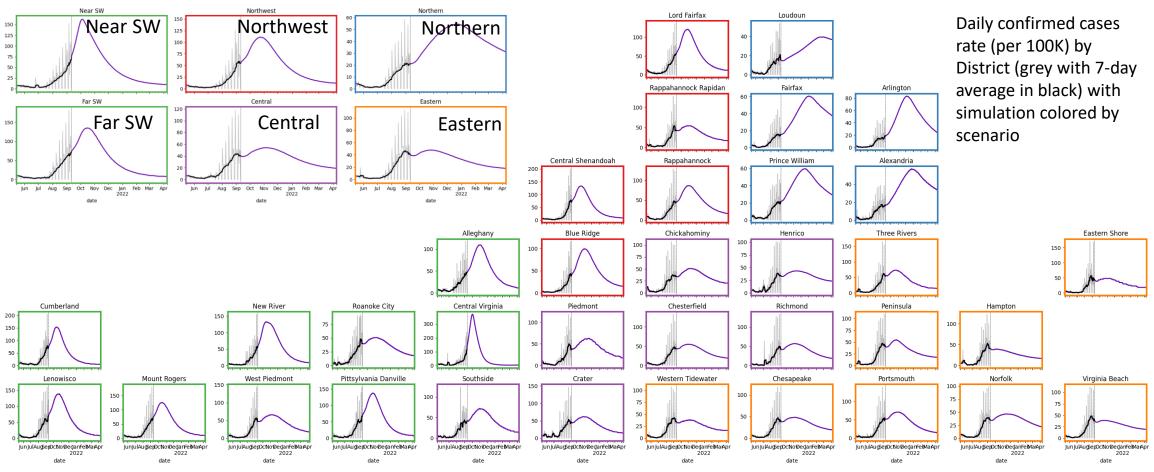


Daily confirmed cases rate (per 100K) by District (grey with 7-day average in black) with simulation colored by scenario



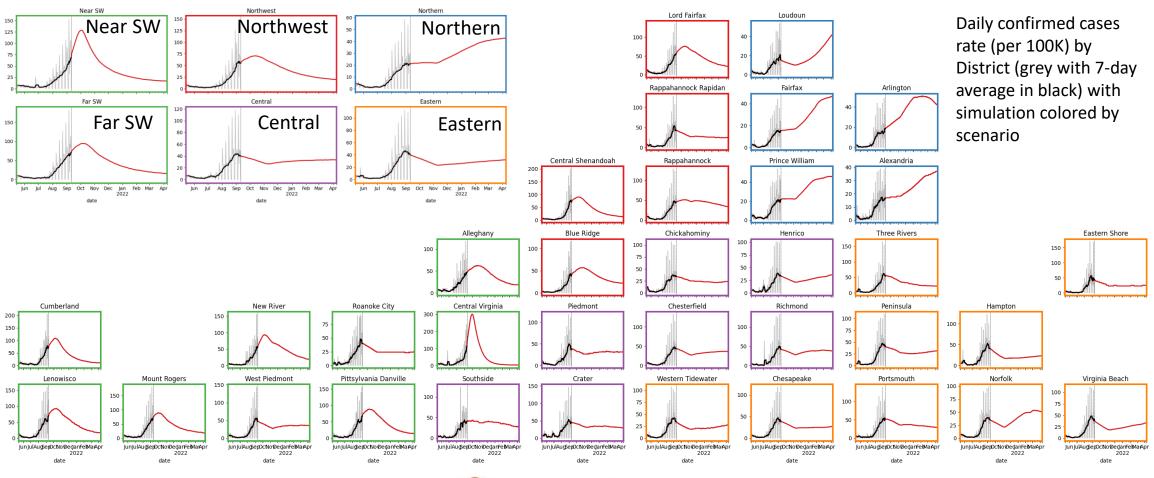
District Level Projections: SeptSurge

Projections by Region



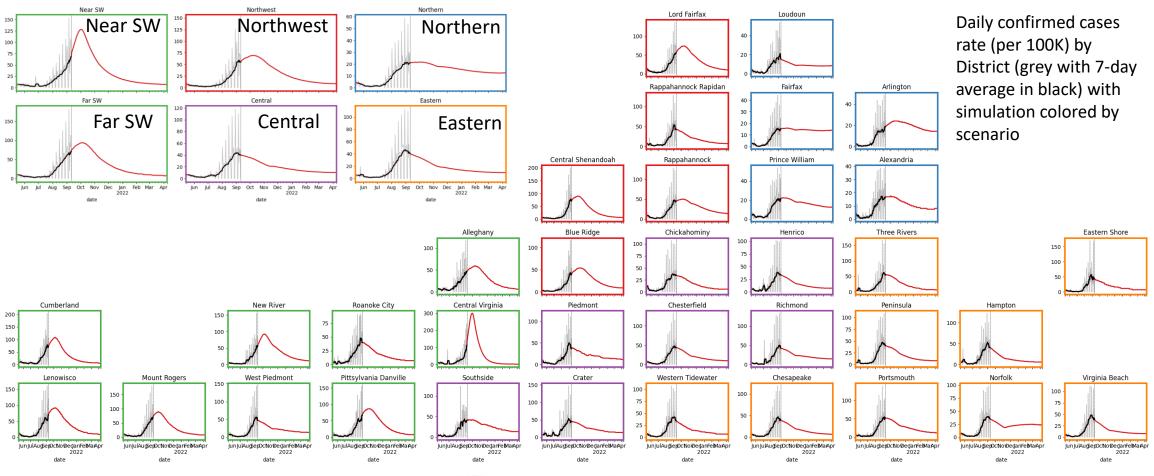
District Level Projections: Adaptive-Fall

Projections by Region



District Level Projections: Adaptive-Fall-VaxOpt

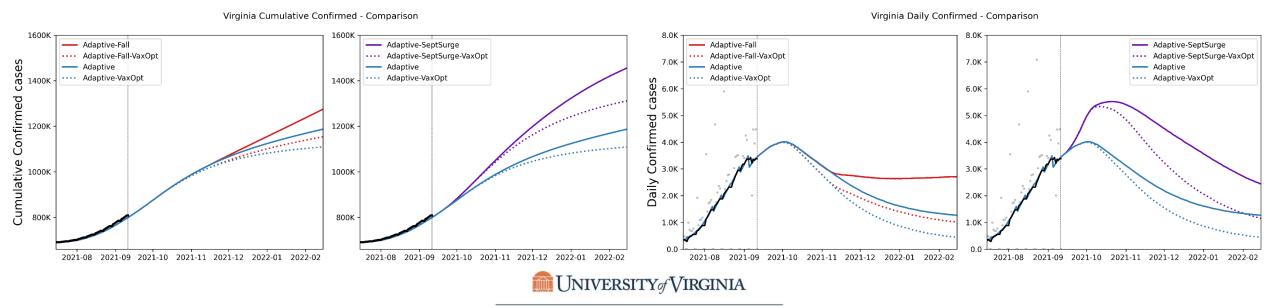
Projections by Region



Impact of expanded vaccine acceptance

Expanded Vax coverage with higher adult coverage & 5-11 year olds in Nov

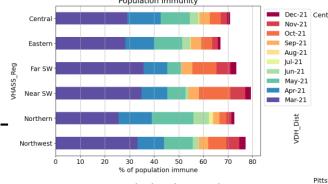
- Even if transmission rates decline after a Delta wave, expanded vax coverage can reduce case counts by ~125K, in addition to providing further resilience to future waves
- A Fall Surge can slow the declining rates following the Delta wave
- Expanded vaccination coverage including children can further curtail the impact of a Fall
 Surge by up to ~215K cases or dampen the effects of a boosted SeptSurge by ~205K cases

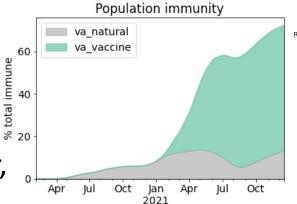


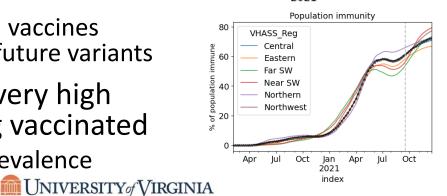
Virginia's Progress on Population Immunity

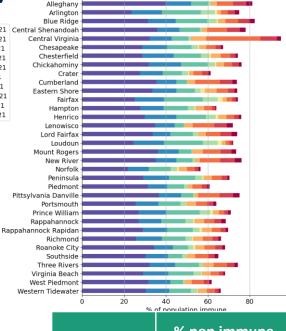
Natural Immunity and Vaccines combine to produce a population level of immunity

- Duration of immunity from infection with SARS-CoV2 still not well understood
 - We assume a conservative 6 month period of protection for these calculations
 - Do **not** factor in variant immune escape
 - Natural immunity is well calibrated to recent seroprevalence surveys
- Vaccine induced immunity is likely to last longer, we assume indefinite protection
 - This also assumes that all administered vaccines remain protective against current and future variants
- Population immunity depends on a very high proportion of the population getting vaccinated
 - Current models track measured seroprevalence









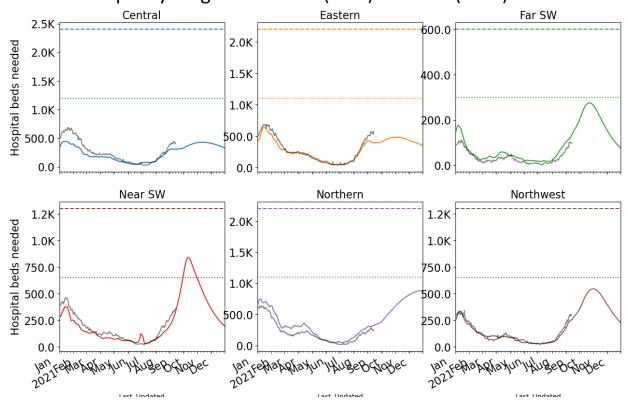
Region	% pop immune (est.)*	
Central	61%	
Eastern	57%	
Far SW	52%	
Near SW	54%	
Northern	65%	
Northwest	59%	
Virginia	60%	
* A = of Comt 12 2021 (

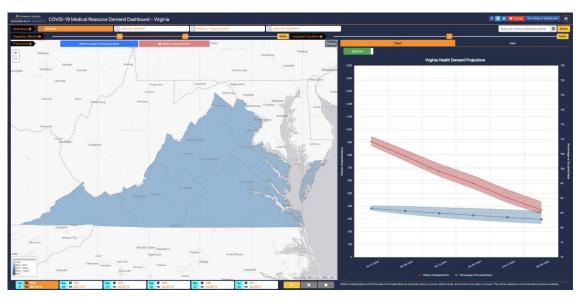
^{*} As of Sept 12, 2021 (updated to account for entire population)

Hospital Demand and Bed Capacity by Region

Capacities* by Region – Adaptive SeptSurge

COVID-19 capacity ranges from 80% (dots) to 120% (dash) of total beds





https://nssac.bii.virginia.edu/covid-19/vmrddash/

Adaptive SeptSurge scenario shows that even with Delta enhanced severity:

- No regions should exceed their surge capacities
- Some regions may exceed initial capacities

* Assumes average length of stay of 8 days



Key Takeaways

Projecting future cases precisely is impossible and unnecessary. Even without perfect projections, we can confidently draw conclusions:

- Case rate growth in Virginia has slowed as many districts have started a decline from a peak, similarly across US many states have started declining from a peak; Case rates remain very high.
- VA mean 7-day incidence is up at 43/100K from 38/100K, US also up at 50/100K (from 48/100K)
- Projections show reduced rate of increase and thus the impact has decreased compared to last week
- Recent updates:
 - Adjustment to higher levels of assumed immunity waning (natural and vaccine)
 - Added a SeptSurge based on transmission rates from last year Labor Day to Thanksgiving with variant boosting
 - Added Fall surge scenario to capture potential rebounds and further test immunity from expanded vaccination

The situation continues to change. Models continue to be updated regularly.



Additional Analyses

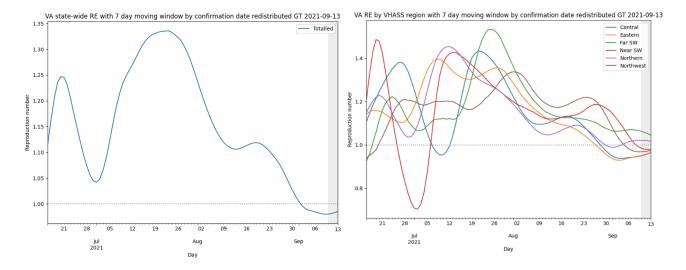


Estimating Daily Reproductive Number –

Redistributed weekend gap

Sept 13th Estimates

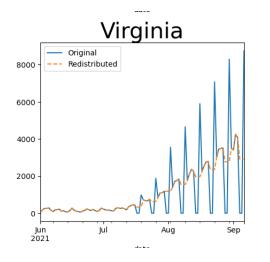
Region	Date Confirmed R _e	Date Confirmed Diff Last Week
State-wide	0.984	-0.019
Central	0.942	0.034
Eastern	0.939	0.034
Far SW	1.070	0.134
Near SW	1.043	0.024
Northern	1.014	0.100
Northwest	0.983	0.001



Skipping Weekend Reports biases estimates
Redistributed Monday to fill in weekend, and then
estimate R from "smoothed" time series

Methodology

- Wallinga-Teunis method (EpiEstim¹) for cases by confirmation date
- Serial interval: updated to discrete distribution from observations (mean=4.3, Flaxman et al, Nature 2020)
- Using Confirmation date since due to increasingly unstable estimates from onset date due to backfill



^{1.} Anne Cori, Neil M. Ferguson, Christophe Fraser, Simon Cauchemez. A New Framework and Software to Estimate Time-Varying Reproduction Numbers During Epidemics. American Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 178, Issue 9, 1 November 2013, Pages 1505–1512, https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwt133

Overview of relevant on-going studies

Other projects coordinated with CDC and VDH:

- Scenario Modeling Hub: Consortium of academic teams coordinated via MIDAS / CDC to that provides regular national projections based on timely scenarios
- **Genomic Surveillance:** Analyses of genomic sequencing data, VA surveillance data, and collaboration with VA DCLS to identify sample sizes needed to detect and track outbreaks driven by introduction of new variants etc.
- Mobility Data driven Mobile Vaccine Clinic Site Selection: Collaboration with VDH state and local, Stanford, and SafeGraph to leverage anonymized cell data to help identify

COVID-19 Scenario Modeling Hub

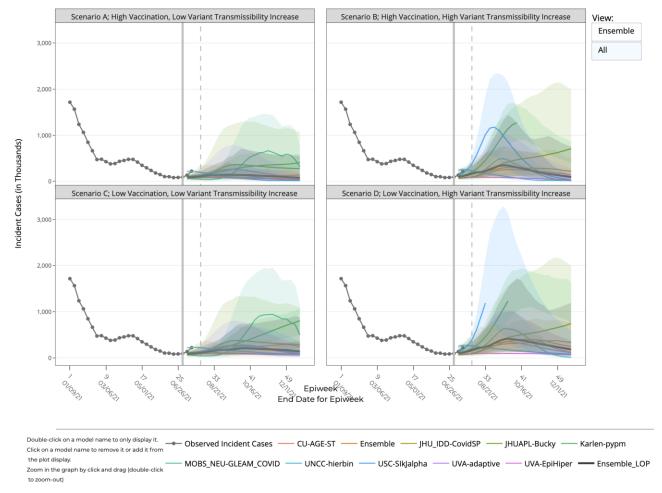
Collaboration of multiple academic teams to provide national and state-by-state level projections for 4 aligned scenarios that vary vaccine rates (high – low) and impact of the Delta variant (high and low)

- Round 8 in planning
- Round 7 now available

Round 4 Results were published May 5th, 2021 in <u>MMWR</u>

https://covid19scenariomodelinghub.org/viz.html

Projected Incident Cases by Epidemiological Week and by Scenario for Round 7 (- Projection Epiweek; -- Current Week)



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COVID-19 Scenario Modeling Hub – Round 7

Round 7 scenarios explore the effects of a variant similar to Delta (B.1.617.2) against different backgrounds of vaccination. Includes some vax escape

Vaccinations by Nov 30

- LowVacc 70% overall coverage
- HighVacc 80% overall coverage

Emerging Variant Impact (5% prevalence on May 29th)

- LowVar 40% more transmissible
- HighVar 60% more transmissible

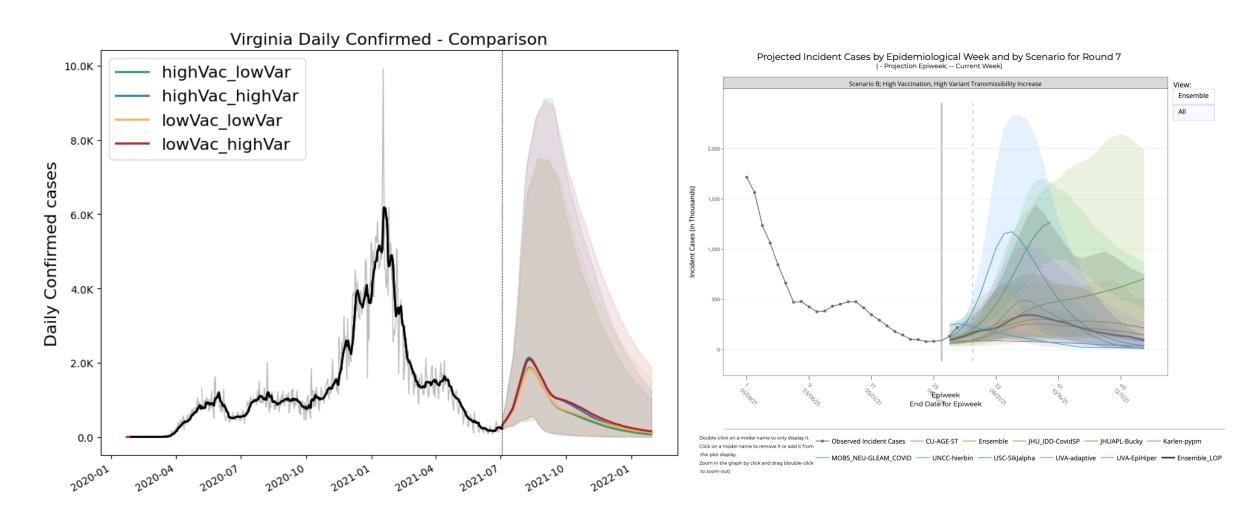
https://covid19scenariomodelinghub.org/viz.html

LOWVai		nigiivai	
See more detailed notes for each scenario below	Low Impact Variant (low transmissibility increase, no immune escape)	High Impact Variant (high transmissibility increase, no immune escape)	
High Vaccination (Low hesitancy)	Scenario A Vaccination:	Scenario B Vaccination:	
HighVacc	 Coverage saturates at 80% nationally among the vaccine-eligible population* by December 31, 2021** 	- Coverage saturates at 80% nationally among the vaccine- eligible population* by December 31, 2021**	
	 VE is 50%/90% for Pfizer/Moderna against the Delta variant, against symptoms (1st /2nd dose) J&J no longer used 	- VE is 35%/85% for Pfizer/Moderna against the Delta variant, against symptoms (1 st /2 nd dose) - J&J no longer used	
	Variant: - 40% increased transmissibility as compared with Alpha for Delta variant. Initial prevalence estimated at state-level by teams.	Variant: 60% increased transmissibility as compared with Alpha for Delta variant. Initial prevalence estimated at state-level by teams.	
Low Vaccination (High hesitancy)	Scenario C Vaccination:	Scenario D Vaccination:	
LowVacc	- Coverage saturates at 70% nationally among the vaccine- eligible population* by December 31, 2021** - VE is 50%/90% for Pfizer/Moderna against the Delta variant, against symptoms (1st /2nd dose) - J&J no longer used Variant: - 40% increased transmissibility as compared with Alpha for Delta variant. Initial prevalence estimated at	- Coverage saturates at 70% nationally among the vaccine- eligible population* by December 31, 2021** - VE is 35%/85% for Pfizer/Moderna against the Delta variant, against symptoms (1st /2nd dose) - J&J no longer used Variant: 60% increased transmissibility as compared with Alpha for Delta variant. Initial prevalence estimated at	

HighVar

LowVar

Modeling Hub – Round 7 Prelim Results



COVID-19 Scenario Modeling Hub - Round 8 (ongoing)

Round 8 scenarios targeted at exploring the effect of waning immunity (natural and vaccine-induced) and varying levels of protection after waning

High Protection

Waning Rates

- Slow exp. waning with mean=3yrs
- Fast exp. waning with mean=1yr
- No waning (Sc A) as baseline

Protection after Waning

- Age stratified protection from infection
- 80% or 90% protection from hosp/death

Low Protection

Slow waning of natural and vaccine-Fast waning of natural and vaccine-See detailed notes induced immunity induced immunity on each scenario below (from no waning to exponential waning (exponential waning with mean of 1 year) with mean of 3 vrs) Scenario A Scenario B No Waning: Waning: High protection Vaccine-induced and natural Exponentially distributed against infection immunity retain their initial immune waning with mean of 1 and severe protection throughout the year (time to transition to partially disease after simulation period immune state) waning In partially immune state: - Protection from infection is: - 70% ≤ 65yrs -35% > 65yrs Protection from hospitalization and death is 90% Scenario C Scenario D Waning: Waning: Exponentially distributed **Exponentially distributed** immune waning with mean of 3 immune waning with mean of 1 **vears** (time to transition to year (time to transition to partially Low protection partially immune state) immune state) against infection and severe In partially immune state: In partially immune state: disease after Protection from infection is: Protection from infection is: waning - 50% ≤ 65yrs - 50% ≤ 65yrs -25% > 65yrs-25% > 65yrsProtection from hospitalization Protection from hospitalization and and death is 80% death is 80%

Fast Waning

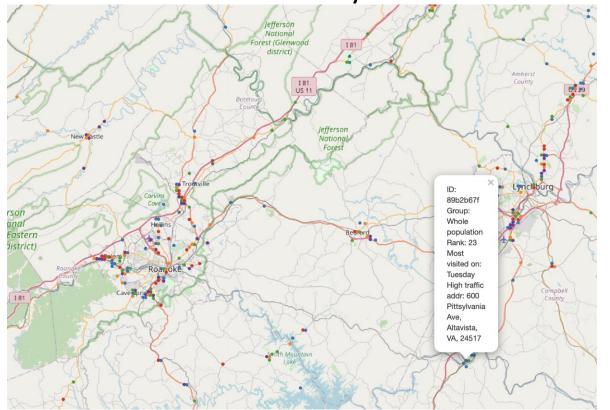
Slow Waning

https://covid19scenariomodelinghub.org/

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Data Recommended Mobile Vax Clinic Sites

Detailed and Timely Locations



Data Delivered and Disseminated to Locals

Provides a list of areas most visited by a given demographic group based on SafeGraph mobility data that links visits to specific sites and the home Census Block Group of the anonymized visitors

Demographic Groups: Black, Lantinx, Young Adults (20-40), Unvaccinated, and Whole Population

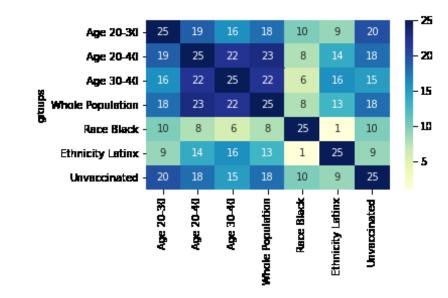
Data Included: Rank, Weight, most visited Day of Week, Highly Visited Address, and Lat-Long of area

Goal: Provide frequently visited locations based on populations and vaccination levels one desires to reach **Example:** List of location in the Southside frequented by 20-40 year olds



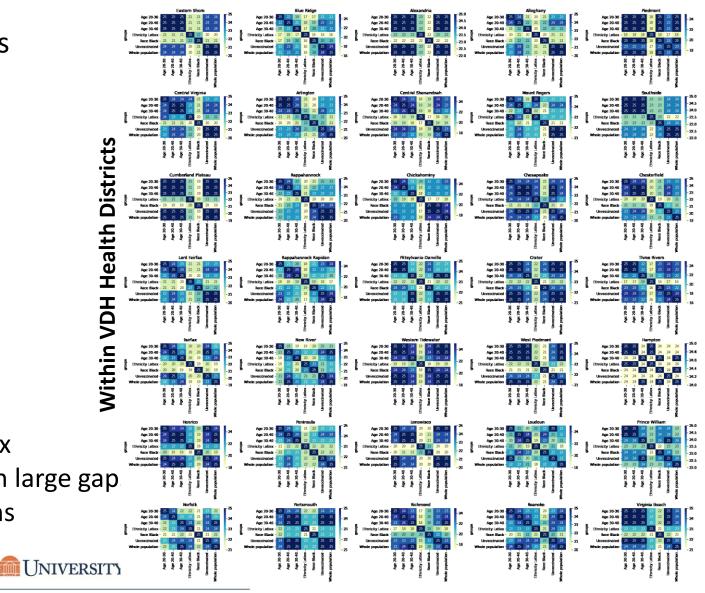
Data Recommended Mobile Vax Clinic Sites

Overlap of locations between groups



Different groups visit different areas

- Least overlap between Black and Latinx
- Overlap in ages highest, but drops with large gap
- Districts have different overlap patterns



State Level

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Biocomplexity page for data and other resources related to COVID-19: https://covid19.biocomplexity.virginia.edu/



Questions?

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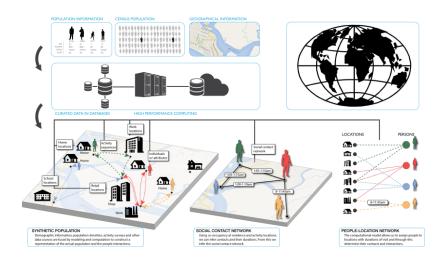
Supplemental Slides



Agent-based Model (ABM)

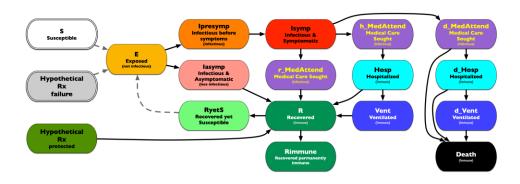
EpiHiper: Distributed network-based stochastic disease transmission simulations

- Assess the impact on transmission under different conditions
- Assess the impacts of contact tracing



Synthetic Population

- Census derived age and household structure
- Time-Use survey driven activities at appropriate locations



Detailed Disease Course of COVID-19

- Literature based probabilities of outcomes with appropriate delays
- Varying levels of infectiousness
- Hypothetical treatments for future developments

